

## REMARKS

Applicant has amended claim 1 and added new claim 9. Claims 1-9 are pending in this application.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. Section 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for using the phrase “such as”. Applicant has deleted the phrase in question from claim 1.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-8 under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as being obvious over Sekine (US Patent No. 5572372). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

The Examiner stated that the Sekine reference teaches “displaceable optics in microscope illumination, such as a displaceable collector” as claimed in claim 1. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

The Sekine reference is clearly directed to a lens system such as a zoom lens in a camera. First, nothing in Sekine is directed to an **illumination system**. Second, nothing in Sekine is directed to an illumination system in a **microscope** (see for example col. 5, lines 16-24).

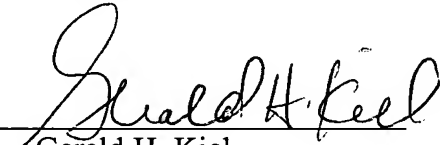
By contrast, the present invention of claim 1 is directed to “displaceable optics in **microscope illumination**” (emphasis added). As described in the present specification at page 2, lines 8-13, the optics housing is subjected to hot conditions from the illumination light source in a microscope environment. As such, the Teflon strips are provided to ensure a flexible contact which is low in tolerance between the optics housing and the guide sleeve and which exert an elastic pressure on their surface. Sekine neither teaches nor suggests a displaceable optics that is used in an illumination system of a microscope.

Dependent claims 2-8 are also patentable by virtue of their dependency from independent claim 1.

New claim 9 is presented which is drawn along the lines of claim 1. Claim 9 explicitly recites that the displaceable optics is “adapted to receive an illumination from an illumination light source for a microscope” to emphasize that the claimed invention is directed to a microscope environment, rather than a camera environment. For the similar reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 1, Applicant submits that claim 9 is also patentable.

Based upon the above amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application and its earlier allowance. Should the Examiner feel that a telephone conference with Applicant's attorney would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is urged to contact him at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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